(d) Summary trial in special courts.

(e) Supply and production scenarious have now changed.

(f) Seizure of all items rather than only those items in respect of which contravention of the Act has occurred.

The matter regarding further extension of the term of Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Act, 1981 is presently under consideration of the Government.

**Dissemination of consumer education**

4628. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to sate:

(a) what steps Government have taken for the intensive campaign to make consumers aware of their rights and to spread consumer education among the masses in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government propose to encourage consumer organisations in the country for their active indulgence in building consumer awareness among the masses;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to render financial assistance and grants to such consumer organisations;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether it is also a fact that Government propose to make use of Doordarshan and All India Radio for the consumer awareness in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (d) Some of the steps taken by Government to promote a strong and broad-based consumer movement in the country are:

(i) grant of financial assistance to consumer organisations;

(ii) publication and free distribution of literature in the field of consumer protection;

(iii) publication of quarterly journal Upabhokta Jagaran' and its free distribution to libraries and consumer organisations etc.;

(iv) preparation of audio visual material in consultation with Films Division of India and DAVP and its telecast on Doordarshan;

(v) institution of two national awards for the youths and consumer organisations working in the field of consumer protection;

(vi) conducting of training programmes for consumer organisations on regional basis; and

(vii) observance of Consumer Day on 15th March every year.

(e) and (f) Doordarshan telecasts a regular programme entitled 'Sanrakshan Upabhokta Ka' from Delhi Kendra on every Monday at 7.30 p.m. A weekly programme 'Apne Adhikar' is broadcast on all the commercial broadcasting stations of AIR. Besides various programmes are being telecast in Women's Programmes Programme for Rural Viewers, 'Jan Chetna' etc. on consumer education. Audio visual spots/captions on consumer education are also shown frequently.

**Quota of edible oils and sugar to Bihar**

4629. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bihar is being issued less quota of edible oils and sugar in comparison with

other States having less population than Bihar;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the details of the quota of edible oils and sugar released every month to Bihar during the current year;

(d) whether Government propose to increase the quota of edible oils and sugar in the coming festival season for Bihar; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) Allocation of levy sugar to States/UTs is generally made on a uniform norm of 425 grams per capita monthly availability for the projected population as on 1-10-86. From August, 1991, Central Government decided to effect a 5 per cent *ad-hoc* increase in the allocation of levy sugar to the States/UTs including Bihar. Allocation of imported edible oil is made to States/UTs subject to availability of imported stocks and lifting performance of States.

(c) The allocation of levy sugar and imported edible oil made to the Government of Bihar since January, 1992 is as under:—

| Month | Allocation (in tonnes) Levy sugar | Imported edible oil | Lifting |
|---|---|---|---|
| January, 92 | 35132 | 1500 | 200 |
| February, 92 | 35132 | 1500 | 111 |
| March, 92 | 35132 | Nil | 199 |
| April, 92 | 35132 | 1500 | Nil |
| May, 92 | 35132 | Nil | Nil |
| June, 92 | 35132 | Nil | Nil |
| July, 92 | 35132 | Nil | Nil |
| August, 92 | 35132 | Nil | Nil |

(d) and (e) The Government of Bihar has been allotted 10078 tonnes sugar as festival quota. There is already sufficient allocation of imported edible oil available with Bihar, 1050 MT lying at Patna itself.

**Allocation of foodgrains to Maharashtra**

4630. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra Government have made any request to the Central Government for additional allocation of foodgrains in view of the drought situation prevailing in many parts of the State;

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard so far; and

(c) by when the foodgrains are likely to be released for Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) In response to the request from the Government of